

County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

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February 12, 2007

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bryce Yokomizo, Director

SUBJECT: **LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES 2006 FOOD STAMP HUNGER CHAMPION NOMINEE**

This is to inform you that the national Food Stamp Outreach Coalition and the Food Stamp Hunger Champion's committee awarded a Certification of Recognition to Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) for providing exemplary service in assisting eligible applicants obtain Food Stamp benefits. The Food Stamp Outreach Coalition was formed by USDA in 2003, and consists of national organizations working to end hunger and promote the benefits of the Food Stamp Program.

As you may recall, in October 2006, the DPSS Lancaster District office was selected as a 2006 National Food Stamp Hunger Champion-Honorable Mentor. In addition to this award, the Food Stamp Outreach Coalition and the Food Stamp Hunger Champion's committee received nominations from local, state and federal Food Stamp office staff, as well as from non-profit and advocacy communities, to recognize counties that provide exemplary service in assisting eligible clients obtain Food Stamp benefits.

Richton Yee, Chief from the California Department of Social Services, nominated Los Angeles County for the 2006 Hunger Champions' award for the great effort put forth to embrace the mission of the Food Stamp Program. The goal of the nominations and awards is to recognize and support those communities with food stamp professionals who embrace the mission of the Food Stamp Program "to increase food security and to reduce hunger by providing children and low-income people with food, a healthy diet and nutrition education."

As a recipient of this award, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), will list Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services on their Food Stamp Outreach web page.

BY:sb

Enclosures



October 23, 2006

Dear LA County Department of Public Social Services:

In October 2004, the Food Stamp Outreach Coalition introduced an annual recognition program called the Food Stamp Hunger Champions Program. Established to honor local offices that provide exemplary service in assisting eligible clients obtain food stamps, the second round of the Food Stamp Hunger Champions Program received nominations from local, state and Federal food stamp office staff as well as persons from the non-profit and advocacy communities. LA County you were nominated for this award by Richton Yee, CA DSS.

The Food Stamp Outreach Coalition and the Food Stamp Hunger Champion's committee publicly salute you and your service to your community by listing your office as a 2006 Food Stamp Hunger Champion on the Food and Nutrition Service's outreach website (www.fns.usda.gov/fsp/outreach/champions.htm). Enclosed you will find a *Certificate of Recognition* that acknowledge your efforts to support the mission of the Food Stamp Program. Also enclosed is a document listing all of the 2006 Food Stamp Hunger Champion awardees.

Congratulations on receiving this recognition.

The Food Stamp Hunger Champion's Committee

Enclosures



Food Stamp Hunger Champions 2006

The Food Stamp Hunger Champions Program is a Food Stamp Outreach Coalition initiative that honors local food stamp offices for providing exemplary service to clients. The Coalition and its Hunger Champion committee members are comprised of federal, state, and non-profit members.

There are hundreds of food banks, community and faith-based groups, and other organizations nationwide that help people learn about and apply for food stamps. FNS formed the Outreach Coalition in 2003 to join forces with those efforts. By working together, FNS hopes to create a national community of people interested in helping fight hunger and promoting nutrition through food stamp outreach.

Mentors

Ashtabula County Department of Job and Family Services; Ashtabula, OH:

With the mission "to provide superior service, promote well-being and self-sufficiency, alleviate the conditions of poverty and improve health and safety" for all in their community, Ashtabula County office has initiated a number of partnerships and practices that allows them to maintain exemplary service (such as a Rapid Response Team), critical outreach and crucial access for all current and potential food stamp customers.

North Shore Transitional Assistance Office; Salem, MA :

Excels in providing food stamp benefits and embraces a philosophy that office staff are eligibility workers and not ineligibility workers. Recognized for providing overall exemplary office practices, North Shore minimizes the bureaucratic barriers to help households get the benefits to which they are entitled.

Honorable Mentors

McCree District Office; Flint, MI:

Recognized as local leaders in access to nutrition and for their hard work and commitment, the McCree District Office has, along with partnerships with over 22 senior and community centers, paved the way for increasing access to the Food Stamp Program for seniors in their county and six other Michigan counties.

Lancaster District Office; Lancaster, CA:

Adopted a number of strategies to serve as the foundation to improve the effectiveness of its food stamp outreach efforts, increase the number of eligible households in the FSP and minimize the underutilization of food stamps.

Wichita Regional Office, Wichita, KS:

Known for their creative and diligence, the Wichita Regional Office's superb outreach efforts have brought community partners together during a period of increased hunger and poverty to increase access to food stamps.

Brunswick County Department of Social Services; Lawrenceville, VA:

Implemented several practices that remove barriers to the FSP. An EBT educational video playing in the waiting area, a automated 24-hour food stamp information line and monthly newsletters to community churches and organizations are just a few practices used in this rural community to increase participation.

Springfield Economic Services Office; Springfield, VT:

Operates two innovative and unique initiatives for newly released offenders and food stamp participants with mental health issues. Through these initiatives the Springfield Office demonstrates a solid commitment to underserved populations in the fight against hunger in Vermont.

Health & Human Services Commission;

Houston TX: Demonstrates leadership that has established high expectations for meeting timeliness, good customer services, high quality performance, and being an active member and participant in the community.

Catawba County Department of

Social Services; Newton, NC: Staff are expected to accomplish agency wide goals for customer service, increasing participation and numerous outreach activities. Staff evaluations are prioritized and weighted accordingly.

2006 Hunger Champions

Alameda County Social Services; Oakland, CA
Astoria Self Sufficiency Office; Astoria, OR
Baltimore City DSS; Baltimore, MD
Beatrice Local Office Social Services; Beatrice, NE
Butler County Job & Family; Hamilton, OH
Chesterfield Colonial Heights DSS; Chesterfield, VA
Contra Costa Co Employment & Human Services; CA
DCF-Economic Services; Springfield, VT
Delaware DSS-Teams 032 & 035; Claymont, DE
Delaware DSS - Team 177; Castle, DE
Delaware DSS - Teams 312, 400, 630 & 710; Dover, DE
Delaware DSS - Teams 720, 812, 860 & 930; Georgetown, DE
Denver East Food Stamp Office; Denver, CO
Dept of Family & Children; Blakely, GA
Dept of Public Social Services- Teams #26 and #31; CA
Division of Family Resources; Anderson, IN
Division of Family Resources; Muncie, IN
Dubuque County DHS; Dubuque, IA
Echols County DFCS; Statenville, GA
Erie County Dept of Social Services; Buffalo, NY
Fairfax Dept of Family Services; Fairfax, VA
Family Independence Administration, Far Rockaway, NY
Federal Way Community Service; Federal Way, WA
Franklin County DHR; Russellville, AL
Fredericksburg DSS; Fredericksburg, VA
Fresno County Department; Fresno, CA
Fulton County DSS; College Park, GA
Garrett County DSS; Oakland, MD
Greene County DSS; Catskill, NY
Guernsey County Job & Family; Cambridge, OH
LA County Dept of Public Social Services; LA, CA
Marion County dept of Family Resources; Indianapolis, IN
Merced County Human Services; Merced, CA
Milwaukee County DHHS; Milwaukee, WI
Mountrail County SS; Stanley, ND
Mt. Vernon CSO; Mt. Vernon, WA
Nebraska HHS - Eastern Service Area; Omaha, NE
Nevada Div of Welfare; Carson City, NV
North Salem Winema; Salem, OR
Okanogan Community Service Office; Omak, WA
Omak Community Services; Omak, WA
Oneida County DSS; Utica, NY
Onodaga County DSS; Syracuse, NY
Prince Edward County DSS; Farmville, VA
Prince George's County DSS; Landover, MD
Schenectady County DSS; Schenectady, NY
Schuyler County DSS; Watkins Glen, NY
Shelby County Dept Job & Family Services; Sidney, OH
South Umpqua DHS; Canyonville, OR
South Valley Community Human Services; Ashland, OR
St. Helens Self Sufficiency Office; St. Helens, OR
St. Lawrence County DSS; Canton, NY
Stutsman County Social Services; Jamestown, ND
Summers County DHHR; Hinton, WV
Texas Dept HHS - San Antonio Office, TX
West VA DHHS; Martinsburg, WV
West VA DHHR; Summersville, WV
Worcester DTA; Worcester, MA

Contact the Food Stamp Outreach Coalition at FSOC@fns.usda.gov

For more Food Stamp Program information visit: www.fns.usda.gov/fsp



Food Stamp Outreach Coalition

Certificate of Recognition

presented to the

*LA County Department of Social Services
Los Angeles, CA*

2006 Food Stamp Hunger Champion Nominee

*For your great effort put forth to embrace the mission of the
Food Stamp Program.*